Issue 3

GO SERV E-Newsletter

The Governor's Office on Service and Volunteerism GO SERV's mission is to bring Californians together to meet community challenges through service and volunteerism. By working together, we can make a meaningful impact on our communities. To find a local volunteer opportunity, link

to the GO SERV website (http://www.goserv.ca.gov/volunteer/volunteer.asp).

GOSERV

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UPDATES:

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AmeriCorps:

GO SERV received 59 applications for AmeriCorps funding for the 2004-2005 program year by the deadline of January 5,

2004. After a peer review process, inperson staff interviews were held with 48 applicants through Wednesday, February 11 in Sacramento, San Francisco, San Diego, and Los Angeles. On February 25 the full Commission is meeting to vote on the competitive submission to the Corporation for National and Community Service. Results from the national competition will be available in early June, and GO SERV will make final portfolio decisions to announce grantees in July.



Appropriations:

On January 22, with a vote of 65 to 28, the U.S. Senate approved the omnibus appropriations bill that includes increased funding for AmeriCorps. Highlights of fiscal year 2004 appropriations for AmeriCorps include \$130 million in funding for the National Service Trust compared to \$57 million in 2003 and \$0 in 2002. The bill provided \$259 million for State Formula and Competitive AmeriCorps grants compared to \$125 million in 2003 and \$193 million in 2002. National Direct AmeriCorps grants were allocated \$55 million compared to \$50 million in 2003 and \$47 million in 2002. The appropriation is designed to support 75,000 AmeriCorps members, up from 30,000 this year and more than 67,000 last year. In addition, the member slot cap has been eliminated. Funding for the National Civilian Community Corps and Learn and Serve America (K-12 and Higher Education) both remain level. One cause of concern in the bill is the reduced funding for training and technical assistance; however, the majority of the news is extremely positive for AmeriCorps in California and across the nation.





Citizen Corps:

During the past month, GO SERV conducted two Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Train-the-Trainer courses. The first was convened by the City of Woodland Fire Department and led by Howard Hoff from Santa Clara. The following counties had representatives at this CERT training: Yolo; Colusa, Glen, Placer, Sacramento, San Joaquin, Solano, Sutter, and Yuba. The second class was taught at the Humboldt Chapter of the American Red Cross by John Acre of the Los Angeles City Fire Department. Humboldt, Del Norte, Mendocino, Sonoma, Tehama, and Stanislaus counties all sent represen-



tatives to the training.

CERT Train-the-

Trainer courses prepare participants to lead the standard 20-hour CERT course in disaster preparedness, fire suppression, first aid, and light search and rescue. To learn more about CERT training link to http://www.goserv.ca.gov/cc/ccabout.asp#b.

GO SERV Commissioners:

GO SERV is pleased to announce the appointment of six new Commissioners. Welcome to the following new members: laonnis Kazanis from West Sacramento, Special Assistant to the President of AKT Development Corporation; Bob Manley from Los Angeles, retired Political Director of SEIU #347; Lon Rosenberg from La Mirada, Director of Stadium Operations for the Los Angeles Dodgers Organization; Chuck Supple from Sacramento, member of the Youthful Offender Parole Board; Peter Taylor of Los Angeles, Managing Director at Lehman Brothers; and Helen Torres of Los Angeles, Executive Director of Hispanas Organized for Political Equality (HOPE). To learn more, link to http:/ <u>/www.goserv.ca.gov/aboutgs/</u> commissioners.asp.

Spotlight:

GO SERV's Spotlight recipients for the past two months include Gary Sprague, who spearheaded a remodeling ef-



fort for a community health clinic (http://www.goserv.ca.gov/spotlights/feature058.asp), and Etta Reyes, who rides the bus two hours each day to help adults with developmental disabilities (http://www.goserv.ca.gov/spotlights/feature059.asp).



Our most recent Spotlight shines on the Bruceville Terrace teen volunteers, who ensure that residents at

a local senior facility receive the best care possible (http://www.goserv.ca.gov/index.asp). All these outstanding volunteers recognized a need in their community and took action to improve the lives of other people. GO SERV is honored to highlight their contributions.

GO SERV's Spotlight features outstanding Californians who are making a difference through service and volunteerism. To nominate a person or program, link to http://216.102.105.127/spotlights/submit.html.